

Plumbing in farm buildings includes:

All potable water supplies and water distribution piping and the connections to appliances, appurtenances, and plumbing fixtures. This includes but not limited to water treatment devices, water heaters, milk house equipment, interior yard style hydrants, hose bibs, water supplies and the connection to interior stock tanks, and animal drinking cups. The drain, waste and vent systems that convey wastewater to the point the systems exit the building.

Plumbing includes fixtures and piping conveying wastewater discharged to a POWTS from:

Water closet(s); Shower(s); Lavatory(ies), Break room sink(s); Sink(s) within specialty rooms used for personal or animal hygiene. Plumbing includes fixtures and piping conveying wastewater discharged to an onsite DNR permitted wastewater treatment system from: Milk house floor drain(s); Milk house hand sink(s); Milk house sink(s).

For more information, contact a Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services Plumbing Consultant at 608-267-9421 or send an e-mail to: DspsSbPlbgTech@wisconsin.gov

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Plumbing on the Farm WI Plumbing License Law



The progression of the family farm to the corporate farm has raised some questions regarding the plumbing license laws in Wisconsin. The Wisconsin State Statutes has the following definition of plumbing.

State Statute Chapter 145.01(10) reads in part: PLUMBING. "Plumbing" means and includes: (a) All piping, fixtures, appliances, equipment, devices and appurtenances in connection with the water supply, water distribution and drainage systems, including hot water storage tanks, water softeners and water heaters connected with such water and drainage systems and also includes the installation thereof.

The Wisconsin State Statutes also stipulate exemptions to the license law. Exemptions include:

(a) Plumbing work done by a property owner in a one-family building owned and occupied by him or her as his or her home or farm building, except where such license is required by local ordinance.

The exemption allows the owner of a farm to perform plumbing inside his or her farm buildings.

All plumbing performed by the owner is required to be in compliance with the Wisconsin Administrative Plumbing Code, Chapters SPS 381 to 84. Other than the owner, individuals who install plumbing need to be department licensed plumbers working under the general supervision of a master plumber. Plumbing installations outside the perimeter of farm buildings is to be

performed by department licensed plumbers working under the general supervision of a master plumber.

(d) The water pressure system other than municipal systems as provided in ch. 281.

(e) A plumbing and drainage system so designed and vent piping so installed as to keep the air within the system in free circulation and movement; to prevent with a margin of safety unequal air pressures of such force as might blow, siphon or affect trap seals, or retard the discharge from plumbing fixtures, or permit sewer air to escape into the building; to prohibit cross-connection, contamination or pollution of the potable water supply and distribution systems; and to provide an adequate supply of water to properly serve, cleanse and operate all fixtures, equipment, appurtenances and appliances served by the plumbing system.

The Wisconsin State Statutes also stipulate the requirement in Wisconsin for individuals installing plumbing to be licensed by the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services. The statutory language regarding licensing follows:

145.06 License or registration required; exemptions read in part:

(1) (a) No person may engage in or work at plumbing in the state unless licensed to do so by the department.

(2) No person shall install plumbing unless at all times a licensed master plumber is in charge, who shall be responsible for proper installation.

The following table identifies scenarios to aid in the definitions of plumbing and process water. The table is not meant to be exclusive. The Division of Industry Services reserves the right to require changes or additions to this table should conditions arise making them necessary for code compliance.

Subject	Scenario	Type
Farm	Piping conveying milk from a milking parlor to a bulk tank.	Process
Farm	Piping conveying wastewater containing animal waste from a sealed ejector pit to a DNR regulated lagoon.	Process
Farm	Piping conveying wastewater containing animal waste from an open pit in a facility to a DNR regulated lagoon.	Process
Farm	Piping discharging wastewater from a milk house drain	Plumbing
Farm	Piping discharging wastewater from a milk house sink.	Plumbing
Farm	Piping discharging wastewater from a milking parlor.	Plumbing
Farm	Piping conveying wastewater containing animal waste discharging to a DNR regulated lagoon.	Process
Farm	Piping conveying wastewater containing animal waste discharging to a sanitary sewer.	Plumbing
Farm	Piping from a chemical dispenser to milk house equipment or to the bulk tank.	Process
Farm	Piping in a facility conveying wastewater containing animal waste to an ejector pit that discharges to a DNR regulated lagoon.	Process
Farm	Water piping downstream of an approved backflow preventer serving animal waterers or water cups.	Process
Farm	Water piping downstream of an approved backflow device serving a plate cooler then used to serve animal waterers or water cups.	Process
Farm	Water piping supplying a chemical dispenser.	Plumbing
Farm	Water piping to and including a backflow device.	Plumbing
Farm	Water piping to and including yard hydrants.	Plumbing
Farm	Water piping to animal waterers or watering cups.	Plumbing